

15 January 1951

MEMORANDUM TO MR. KIRKPATRICK:

Mr. Nelson Rockefeller called Saturday morning, 13 January. He was advised that Gen. Smith would return to Washington on or about 19 January. He plans to call Gen. Smith again after his return.

Mr. Rockefeller is Chairman of the Advisory Board for International Development which is presently studying the entire foreign economic reconstruction program (ECA, Point IV and so forth). It is an official Government board set up as a part of the State Department. The Board has already been briefed by State Department and is to be briefed in the near future by Secretary Marshall. Mr. Rockefeller feels that the Board should now establish some liaison with the Central Intelligence Agency since any of their recommendations for foreign aid should be in accordance with strategic intelligence considerations. He pointed out that there is no great urgency on this matter as the Board reports are not due until about the middle of February.

If General Smith will agree to such liaison, he is going to suggest the name of Mr. John French, Executive Secretary of the Board and formerly with OSS. He believes that Mr. French's name has already been recommended to Gen. Smith by Gen. Donovan in another connection.

As a matter of information, Mr. Rockefeller added that the Board is also charged with working on recommendations for the centralization

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of all economic foreign aid programs presently conducted by the Government.

Mr. Rockefeller is going to forward for Gen. Smith's information some background data on the Board which will also include a copy of the law establishing the Board and an outline of the problems which they are currently studying.

It is recommended that these papers on arrival be turned over with this memorandum to the appropriate staff in order that their recommendation will be awaiting Gen. Smith upon his return. It is further recommended that Col. Edwards be asked to provide a background report of Mr. John French which will assist Gen. Smith in determining his acceptability for the position as liaison officer between the Central Intelligence Agency and the Advisory Board for International Developments.

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